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## Statement from Dr. Chris Eagle

Effective today, I am stepping down as the Chief Executive Officer and President of Alberta Health Services.

This is a personal and very difficult decision, but it is one that is right for me and for our organization.

I have spent the last three years leading AHS, the largest health care authority in the country, and it has been my privilege to have had that opportunity. This has been by far the most challenging and rewarding work of my career.

Over the past three years, we have moved beyond creating the business and organizational foundation for AHS, and most important focused our attention on what matters most – the care of Albertans. Clinical care became our priority, and we have made significant strides in this regard.

By way of example, I would highlight the recent opening of the South Health Campus in Calgary, a new, full-service hospital in one of Canada's fastest-growing cities; and the opening of the Kaye Edmonton Clinic, a new, world-class outpatient clinic. We've also seen tremendous growth in the services we offer cancer patients, with the opening of radiation services in Lethbridge, and the ongoing development and redevelopment of cancer centres in Calgary, Red Deer and Grande Prairie.

We've built a foundation for transformative change in how we care for our patients with the launch of our Strategic Clinical Networks and our Operational Clinical Networks. We've taken a look at how we build clinical care teams in our acute care sites and we're taking steps through our workforce transformation projects to ensure that the right staff mix is in place to care for patients when they most need us.

We've also worked to solidify relationships with our partners, such as our 66 foundations and 60-plus auxiliaries, our health and provincial advisory councils, our professional associations, and our academic colleagues. All of this takes time, and it takes strategic effort and fortitude.

Behind the scenes, we have reorganized our financial reporting and budgeting processes, and restructured our corporate support services to better support our clinical operations.

But it is time for fresh eyes and fresh energy at the helm of AHS.

It is time to address future challenges, including the growing and aging population; the vulnerable sub-population of Albertans who account for only six per cent of our population but require 60 per cent of AHS' clinical resources; the creation of clinical information systems that provide the most up-to-date, relevant information at the bedside; and finally, cost escalation.

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AHS must also develop a new and improved culture of engagement to ensure that our stakeholders, and our staff and physicians, are fully involved in planning and decision-making. These are not insignificant challenges.

On a personal note, I will miss being at the centre of health care innovation. I have seen our organization rise to many challenges, including the Slave Lake fires, and the southern Alberta floods. I am honoured to have led AHS, and I look forward to the continued evolution and successes of AHS.

Dr. Chris Eagle  
President & CEO